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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:)
TOSHIO ABE ET AL.)
Application No.: 09/257,064)
Filed: February 25, 1999)
For: INFORMATION PROCESSING)
APPARATUS AND INFORMA-)
TION PROCESSING METHOD) April 2, 2001

Examiner: ~~NYA~~ T. Lamb

Group Art Unit: 2772
2621

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed, together with a European Search Report of February 27, 2001 citing them.

U.S. patent 5,862,257 is an English language counterpart of JP09018710.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Each item of information in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication

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from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

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CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

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